

# "The Right of Way" Other Stage Topics

POWERFUL STORY OF NEW DRAMA --- "THE COMING OF MRS. PATRICK," BY RACHEL CROTHERS

[From Our New York Dramatic Correspondent.]

**THE COMING OF MRS. PATRICK** and "The Right of Way" are the latest additions to the New York stage. Both plays have merits, and yet neither is destined to prove a big success.

"The Coming of Mrs. Patrick" is by Miss Rachel Crothers, author of "The Three of Us," the decided success of last year at the Madison Square theater, and in her new drama the author again shows ability to play on human nature and to depict character intelligently.

Mrs. Patrick, played well by Laura Nelson Hall, is a trained nurse who, coming into a family distraught by sickness, quarrels, etc., spreads a thick layer of sunshine over every one and everything. Mrs. Patrick takes the household tiller in her own hands and steers the wobbly old ship into smooth waters.

Mrs. Patrick, with her limitless courage and buoyant optimism, wins the heart of all except the elder daughter, who believes an insinuation against the nurse uttered by a man about town who is suitor for her younger sister's hand. The truth of the matter is that this same man is unfavorably known to Mrs. Patrick through a certain girl on whom she has taken pity and with whom the son of the family is now infatuated.

The later events bring forward a series of complications in which Mrs. Patrick allows herself to be accused of intriguing to marry the family "young hopeful" and finally concludes with the realization of the love existing between herself and the physician.

## "The Right of Way."

"The Right of Way," at Wallace's, is a dramatization by Eugene Presbrey of Sir Gilbert Parker's well known novel of the same name. As a play it is not as successful by long odds as the novel. Guy Standing wins a personal success in the leading role.

The adapter follows the trend of the actual book story closely as a whole, making, of course, some departures to render it suitable for the purposes of staging. The scenes are laid in Montreal and in the old French parish of Chaudiere, 200 miles distant from Montreal.

There are six scenes in "The Right of Way," which show the den of Charles Steele in Montreal, the Cote Dorien on the St. Lawrence at night, Joe Portugal's hut on the mountain, the valley of Cooling Springs and the Church of the Holy Cross.

## First View of Steele.

The play opens when Charles Steele (Guy Standing), having just succeeded in clearing Joe Portugal of a charge of murder, is sleeping in a room connected with his office. He is, as usual



William H. Crane Kyrle Bellew

CRANE IN "FATHER AND THE BOYS." BELLEW IN "THE THIEF." TWO WELL KNOWN ACTORS IN NEW ROLES.

when out of court, in a drunken stupor. Several people are talking about Steele, praising his wonderful effort

before the jury, etc., when he enters and reveals much of his temperament and true character by asking:

"Is there much in this gray old world that is worth caring for?" Now occur several interesting situa-

tions between Steele and Portugal, Steele and Kathleen, his wife, Steele having discovered that Billy Wantage,

her brother, has forged his name, and also between Steele and John Brown, a minister, who has lost his faith and career through agnostic questions propounded by Steele. Brown, who is drunk, threatens Steele with vengeance because of his destruction of his (Brown's) faith, his morals and his social standing.

In the second scene Joe Portugal, through gratitude, tries to prevent Steele from going to the Cote Dorien to see Susan, a young girl of remarkable mentality, whose ideals regarding life have impressed Steele. His visit to the Cote Dorien arouses the jealousy of the river men, who attack Steele, strike him on the head and throw him into the river.

The next scene occurs after three years have passed. Steele is living with Portugal, having no recollection of anything that happened after being injured on the head. Steele has met Rosalie, postmistress of the village, and has fallen deeply in love with her. Now a surgeon appears who states that an operation will bring back Steele's memory.

Finally the operation is performed. Steele's memory is restored, and he learns that his wife in Montreal has married Captain Fairing and that they have a child. He also finds out that he is regarded as a fugitive from justice, as an embosser of trust money. Billy Wantage's forgery having been charged against Steele after his disappearance.

## "I'll Keep Her!" Cries Steele.

Steele's love for Rosalie and his non-profession of any religion have led the ignorant people of the village to look upon him as a heretic, and during a very touching love scene between him and Rosalie the hut of Joe is assailed by religious fanatics, who are intent upon killing Steele as a heretic and infidel. He is saved by the seigneur, whose brother, the abbe, demands that he give an accounting of his past and whether he can give Rosalie his name. Steele is silent. Asked what he is going to do in reference to Rosalie, he cries:

"Keep her! She is mine! Let him who is without sin cast the first stone."

In the fifth scene Steele has decided that he must go away forever and leave the woman he so fondly loves. He knows that sooner or later the truth as to his real identity will be learned and that he is not in a position to protect Rosalie by giving her his name. The parting interview between Rosalie and Steele takes place in the valley of Cooling Springs and is interrupted by the burning of the church, which has been set on fire by John Brown, who has escaped from jail. The church is a seething furnace of heat, yet Steele and Joe Portugal rush into the flames to save the sacred vessels of the altar, and in doing so both are fatally burned. FREDERICK TREGELLES.

## A SIMPLE COUNTRY DINNER.

When we go to Aunt Carrie's, she sez she ain't had no time to fix a dinner like it ought to be. 'Cause she has been at work since six o'clock, a-sweepin' out the rooms. An' tidyin' the place a lot. So, if we're hungry, she pines. We'll haf to take just what she's got.

An' nen she sez she ain't th' one To try to put on city style— She likes relations just to run In for a meal once in awhile. An' be content with what is cooked— A simple country dinner—no If anything is overlooked. It'll haf to be excused, you know.

An' nen she goes an' shuts th' door 'At tends out where th' table is. An' pa, he sez he's glad he'd wore 'At country appahite o' his! Aunt Carrie tells us to come on. Although there's nothin' fit to touch, But we can eat till it is gone. But she knows, that it ain't much!

An' there is chickens—young ones—fried, An' there's a juicy, big boiled ham, 'Til lots o' gravy on each side. An' turnips an' blackberry jam An' soda biscuits—just as light— An' quince p'erves an' peaches, too, An' mash potatoes—just as white— An' dandy pickles, I tell you!

An' beans an' peas an' corn an' rice An' cherties 'at is sweet an' red An' quince p'erves—I've told 'at twice, But they're fine on Aunt Carrie's bread— An' pies—three kind o' pies—an' cake An' apple jelly—it's the best— You ought to see it shure an' shure, An'—goodness, I forget th' rest!

An' we all eat till we can't hold Another little bit, you bet. An' nen Aunt Carrie, she will scold An' say she knows we're hungry yet. Nen pa, he sez 'at this here meal Has surely been most glor-rious An' sez he wonders how we'd feel If she had been expectin' us! —W. D. Nesbit in New York Life.

## Progressing.



"And is Willie Vanfeller really studying medicine?" "Yes, and he's getting on famously. He told me yesterday I was looking well, and, by Jove, I was!"—Harper's Weekly.

## Couldn't Discharge Him.

When the jury had filed in for at least the fourth time, with no sign of coming to an agreement in the bribery case, the disgusted judge rose up and said, "I discharge the jury!" At this one sensitive taxman, stung to the quick by this abrupt and ill sounding decision, obstinately faced the judge.

"You can't discharge me, judge," he retorted. "Why not?" asked the astonished judge.

"Because," announced the taxman, pointing to the defendant's lawyer, "I'm being paid by that man there!"—Lippincott's.

## Cookery.

"You don't treat me with nice consideration, anticipate my every want, provide me with whatever is designed to make life pleasant regardless of expense, betray a vigilant solicitude for my comfort, a tender respect for my feelings, an absorbing interest in my happiness," complained the wife. "Certainly not," replied the husband. "I didn't marry a cook!"—New York Life.

## Ducal Caution.

"The duke insists that the wedding must be postponed." "What reason does he give?" "He's troubled with depression." "Heavens!" "No, financial. He's waiting to find out how much papa lost in Wall Street."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

## Better Still.

She—And after we are married, dear, you'll tell me everything that happens, won't you? Cousin Fannie's husband does.

He—Well, darling, I'll go Fannie's husband one better. I'll tell you a lot of things that don't happen at all.—Chicago News.

## Not His Kind.

Mr. Nodd—I don't think much of that toy bank you got the children. Mrs. Nodd—What's the matter with it? Mr. Nodd—Why, I worked over it all the evening and couldn't open it.—Judge.

## A Caustic Critic.

"Yes," said H. Tregedy, self complacently, "I am satisfied that I would make an ideal Hamlet." "Come off!" cried Love Comedy. "Hamlet means a little ham, and you're a big one."—Philadelphia Press.

## Our Charity.

"But," insisted the good man, "isn't it true, as the old saying goes, that 'charity covers a multitude of sins?'" "If so," snorted the cynic, "not if it's our charity and other people's sins."—New York Press.

## Timely Talk on Many Sporting Subjects

**T**HE closing football season has taught many valuable lessons. First, it has shown that the game can be played without an accompanying long list of casualties and still remain attractive to the players; second, it has been shown that the public will patronize the new kind of game fully as extensively as it did the old bone crushing style; third, it showed that individual ability is becoming more and more useful in scoring, for the absence of much of the mass play puts a man carrying the ball there on his own resources; fourth, it showed that the importance of all branches of kicking has greatly increased; fifth, we see that speed can

in certain situations overcome the advantage of greater weight; sixth, the forward pass has undoubtedly come to stay for all time in football in this country.

The playing of most of the big contests having now been recorded in 1907 history, all eyes, in the east at any rate, are turned toward Philadelphia, where on Thanksgiving day Pennsylvania university meets Cornell, and Nov. 30, on the same greenward (Franklin field), the West Point Military academy meets the Annapolis Naval academy. The army-navy game always closes the season in the east. Cornell has been picked by many as the victor over the Pennsylvanians. The defeat of Princeton by the Itha-

cans naturally boomed their stock to lofty heights.

## Give It a Rest, Boys.

A few days ago some sly fox dragged the old Jeffries-Johnson fight skeleton out of its moldy shroud and rattled the bones anew. Thus it was done: JEFFRIES TRAINING IN SECRET!

Such was the caption in large letters over the story, which went on to recite how the alfalfa tamer had been secretly working himself into shape for a bout with the negro champion. Of course so long as the story was an ingenious one and set forth about \$10 a column there was ample justification for it. It certainly was a novel idea

to describe any prize fighter as doing anything in secret. As a rule, the knuckle shovers don't care even to get out of bed in the morning unless the reporters and photographers are on hand to describe and picture just how the maneuver is accomplished.

## Horse Show Slump.

How have the mighty fallen! Once upon a time about a year ago boxes of the New York horse show brought tremendous sums of money. Millionaires sent their agents to the auction to offer almost any unreasonable sum of money for boxes in choice locations. But this year the tumble in stocks and other financial troubles reduced the obesity of their incomes to such an extent that the sale of boxes and seats closely resembled bargain day in a department store. This year boxes were sold for \$100 that brought \$600 and \$700 last year!

## Billiards Inactive.

What is the matter with the billiard sharps? The only activity of note in the cue world is in Chicago. The Atlantic coast experts seem to have fallen under some dreadful spell. Never was there a time like this in New York, Boston and Philadelphia at this season of the year when challenges usually are hurled back and forth like cannon balls.

Sutton and Schaefer have given a semblance of life to the billiard circles in the Windy City, and it is to be hoped that in New York Maurice Daly and George Slosson will hang up prizes for some of the experts if no other plan can be arranged to bring them together.

## Honey Melody.

What is the matter with Honey Melody, the pure, white souled singer who never smoked or drank who never said a bad word and who always asked mamma's advice about everything he did?

H. Melody long has cherished the thought that he was really the welter-weight champion of America, but his last two defeats have put him out of the running, for a time at least. Recently at Dayton, O., Frank Mantell of Providence, R. I., knocked out Honey cold and limp. Though Mantell had been badly pounded up to the fourteenth and fifteenth rounds, he had enough stamina left to shove over on Melody a right hook that shut out the landscape.

## New Harness Records.

The harness racing season of 1907 was notable in the number of new world's records that was established

No less than eleven new marks were officially placed upon the books.

The ablest performances were made by the youngsters. The trotters and pacers of the two and three year old division showed sensational class.

In the two-year-old class Trampstead placed the world's record for trotters at 2:12½, while Helen Hale set the world's pace record for fillies at 2:13½. In the facing division the two-year-old colt Ray o' Light did not receive credit for a world's record, but made the excellent time of 2:13½.

In the three-year-old trotting class General Watts stood preeminently at the head. That he has proved a profitable investment for his owner, General Watts, who paid Senator John W. Bailey of Texas only \$1,600 for the son of Axworthy, is shown by his winnings this year, which amount to over \$20,000. He captured the Horse Breeders' and Horse Review stakes and the Kentucky Futurity, besides a class race, and twice reduced the world's record for three-year-old trotting stallions.

Among the other world's records made during the year Sweet Marie

made the best mile ever recorded for a half mile track. HARRY GRANT.

## JOCKEY WOULD BE PRIEST.

"Father Bill" Daly, for twenty-five years a noted figure on the eastern turf, now hopes to live long enough to hear his nephew, Michael, a jockey, celebrate mass. The boy has been riding for his father and uncle for some years, but dislikes the life and feels a vocation for the priesthood. "Go ahead, my boy, and I will see you through," said Daly.

## HE MEANT BUSINESS.

A well known cricket club in England, in the neighborhood of Bury, were playing their last match of the season on their own ground.

The visitors batted first, and the home team's one and only "pro," who was a good all round man, captured seven wickets for a few runs, thereby assuring himself of the "bowling prize" for the season.

The "batting prize," however, was still an open question, and during the



A CORRECT POSITION FOR RECEIVING A FORWARD PASS.

trotted a mile over the Allentown (Pa.) track in 2:07, which is the best mark over a half mile track for mares, and she also made a new wagon record, 2:03½, for a half mile track. Then on top of these great performances Sweet Marie established her third world's record by trotting in 2:09½, the best mark ever made to wagon over a half mile track, at Lima, O., driven by an amateur. The gelding, George C., at Allentown, Pa., by trotting in 2:09½,

interval between the innings the "pro" was busy in helping to roll the pitch. A spectator, observing this, remarked to one of the home players:

"Tom's working hard today, isn't he?" "Aye," replied the other, with a touch of sarcasm. "Tom's not greedy, but he likes a lot. He's gotten t' 'bowling prize,' he gets paid for his services, an' Aye can see he means to collar t' 'batting prize.' I expect he'll be pinchin' t' 'bloomin' pavilion next.'"



WORMICK, PRINCETON.

PARKER, HARVARD.

BIGLOW, YALE.

THREE LEADING COLLEGE FOOTBALL CAPTAINS